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INFORMATION REPORT

REFERENCE CO

REPORT NO

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COUNTRY Albania/Bulgaria

DO NOT CIRCULATE

DATE DISTR. 24 July 1952

SUBJECT Comments on Reports Concerning Replacement of
Soviet Personnel in Albania by Bulgarians

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SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

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1. Information stating that Soviet representatives in Albania are being replaced by Bulgarians is considered unreliable,¹ even though the replacement of the Soviet Minister of Albania, Dimitri S. Chuvashkin, might be interpreted as indirect confirmation of reports to this effect.²
2. Reports alleging that Bulgarians are replacing Soviet personnel have been recurrent and recent reports have been more persistent and have contained more detailed information. These reports must be related to others which have revealed that present Soviet policy is to abandon Albania in favor of the Bulgarians, who are being given greater responsibilities in the Balkans.
3. It is quite possible that the presence of Cominform representatives in Albania for military reviews, ceremonies, and educational missions could be the basis for these reports which probably have been deliberately circulated by refugees and interested groups.³

1. Additional efforts are being made by source to ascertain the validity of the reports concerning Bulgarians in Albania.

2. [] The former Soviet Minister to Albania, Dimitri S. Chuvakhin, left Albania, ostensibly on leave, on 13 December 1951, but never returned to his post. On 21 April 1952, Danilovich Levychkhin arrived in Albania as the Soviet Minister to replace Chuvakhin.

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